

Goodland plans events

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sociation events. On Thursday night is the Howdy Rowdy Rodeo and family fun night. On Friday at 4:30 p.m. is the 4-H appreciation barbecue and livestock sale and at 7:30 p.m. is the modified tractor pull. The Tri-State Royal of Champions – where animals winners from the area fairs compete against each other – will be at 1 p.m. Saturday.

The **Flatlander Festival** will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 24 to 26, down Main Avenue. On Friday is an 18-hole golf tournament at Sugar Hill Golf Club starting at 9 a.m., and at 5:30 there will be stock car races. On Saturday there will be a street carnival with rides, vendors and food. There is a car show run by the Brick Top Cruiser Car Club near Central Elementary School. A motorcycle show run by the Northwest Kansas Bike Club will be at the north end of Main Avenue. In the afternoon there is a scruffy dog contest followed by a talent show with live music. At 3 p.m. the Colorado Tractor Pullers Association has their benefit pull and at 4:30 p.m. stock car races start. On Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. is the Picnic in the Park at Chambers Park with live music, free food, games and vendors.

Colby tourism board attracts

By Andy Heintz

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Leilani Thomas, director of the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau, said her group's mission is to attract visitors of all kinds to Colby.

"We understand that events, meetings and conferences and special events bring guests and their dollars to our community," she said.

Thomas said the organization's strategy is multi-faceted.

"We market to the leisure traveler in many ways including brochures, direct mail, e-mails and advertising," she said.

"We feel the Colby Visitor Center is part of this marketing. If a visitor stops, we have the opportunity to talk with them and encourage them to visit some of our attractions."

Thomas said there are many events happening in Colby this year, many of them due to Thomas County celebrating its **125th birthday**. She said the date set for the city's 125th is Oct. 9. The grand celebration will be at the Community Building with music, a historical fashion show, a video and lunch, Thomas said.

"It should be a great culmination celebrating all we have achieved during the past century," she said.

One event Colby will be hosting this year as part of their 125th birthday celebra-



The logo for the Thomas County 125th Anniversary celebration was created by a local artists and has been used for events throughout the year.

tion, is the Kansas Humanities Council's "Bright Dreams, Hard Times: America in the Thirties," **Chautauqua** festival from Wednesday, June 2, to Sunday, June 6, un-

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